

LB 406 is to provide for the licensing of speech pathologists and audiologists. This bill will specify the scope of service, define the minimum qualification necessary for providing service, establish a board of examiners, set license fee and provide for accountability. In view of the seriously handicapped nature of speech and hearing problems, identification of those qualified to serve such needs is warranted. Minimum estimates of the incidents of speech, language and hearing problems is placed at 10% of the population and the most commonly afflicted are the very young and the elderly. At the present time, the management of people with communication disorders represents one of the few professional services which offers the public no protection against incompetency, unethical practices or other abuses. I move that LB 406 be advanced to F & R for Initial. Now there are some amendments from the fiscal analysts office.

SENATOR MARVEL PRESIDING

SENATOR MARVEL: Senator Moylan, first of all, Senator Nichol has some amendments which he had introduced. He wishes to withdraw them. If you will hold up a moment, I will recognize him and then I will come back to you because you have an amendment. Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, since this has been printed in whatever we print it in, I ask for unanimous consent to withdraw my motion.

SENATOR MARVEL: Senator Nichol asks unanimous consent to withdraw his amendments to LB 406. Is there any objection? If not, so ordered. Senator Moylan, you have an amendment to LB 406.

SENATOR MOYLAN: These are updating amendments from the fiscal analyst office and they are real short. It is just a matter of bringing the dates up to date for this year. On page 8, line 13, strike "1978" and insert "1979", strike "1979" and "1980". He probably means insert "1980", I think. These amendments came from the fiscal analyst's office. So I would move that the amendments to LB 406 be adopted from the fiscal analyst office.

SENATOR MARVEL: Senator Moylan makes a motion that his amendments to LB 406 be adopted. Is there a second to the motion? Okay. We need 25 votes to approve his amendments. All those in favor of Senator Moylan's amendments on 406 vote aye, opposed vote no. Clerk.

CLERK: Senator Marvel voting aye.

SENATOR MARVEL: Have you all voted? The Clerk will record the vote.

CLERK: 29 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President.

SENATOR MARVEL: The motion is carried. The amendments are adopted. Senator Moylan, do you want to explain the bill?

SENATOR MOYLAN: Well, I think this bill has been discussed among the members of this body considerably. I don't know of information that they need.